



Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce 2022 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

Immediate Action Items

- Ensuring the **Terre Haute casino license** is awarded fairly and expeditiously so as not to further delay much-needed local and state revenue.
- **Improvements along the I-70 corridor**, specifically a third lane between Terre Haute and Indianapolis, due to safety concerns and economic development planning.
- State-level support for **defense-focused economic development**. As the home of the 181st Intelligence Wing, a wealth of higher education resources, high-tech manufacturing hub and one of the state's best airports, we are always ready for opportunities.
- Advocating for the **rights of employers** and against policies or actions that impede their ability to recruit and retain talent.

Federal Priorities

- Funding for state transportation initiatives
- Continued federal prison development in West Central Indiana
- Community health related initiatives, specifically in the area of recovery
- Continued expansion of broadband services
- Support for state-focused defense development projects

State Priorities

- COVID-19 recovery support for businesses
- Transportation funding, specifically along I-70 corridor
- Funding for regional economic development initiatives, including READI
- Expansion of broadband, specifically in rural areas
- Support in pursuing defense-related economic development opportunities

Local and Regional Priorities

- Continued support for See You in Terre Haute Community Planning initiative
- Rural development throughout six-county region
- Support in pursuing defense-related economic development opportunities

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Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce

2021 ADVOCACY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Driving Community Expansion Projects

- Throughout the casino process, we have constantly advocated on behalf of the community and our overwhelming support of this critical economic development.
- Using the West Central Defense Network, worked alongside the 181st Intelligence Wing to pursue the F-35 Project. Although unsuccessful, the awareness created around our local assets has both grabbed the attention of the state and increased our potential for selection in future projects.
- Alongside other regional partners, led the region's application for funding via the Indiana Economic Development Corporation's READI Grant program. Total application included almost \$400M in projects for West Central Indiana.

Advocating for Businesses through COVID-19

- Vaccine Implementation Forum
- Constant support and updates on federal assistance programs
- Letter to Senator Young advocating for unemployment benefits not be extended

Keeping our Members Informed and Connected

The Chamber hosted the following events that directly connected our business members with state, local and federal officials and agencies:

- Throughout the state legislative session, provided members with a detailed Legislative Update including bill tracking information and industry-specific impacts
- City Update with Mayor Duke Bennett
- Third House State Legislative Session Updates with Senator Jon Ford, Representative Tonya Pfaff, Representative Al Morrison and Representative Bob Heaton
- Employer Liability Forum with Senator Mark Messmer and Senator Jon Ford
- OCRA Update with Denny Spinner, Executive Director
- Indiana Vision 2025 with the Indiana Chamber
- INDOT Update with Commissioner Joe McGuinness
- Redistricting Update and Impacts with Senator Jon Ford
- Community Forum with Stan Pinegar, State President, Indiana - Duke Energy
- HobNob Legislative Reception with key Senate Leadership, including: Senator Rodric Bray, Senator Mark Messmer, Senator Michael Crider, Senator Ed Charbonneau